## Congratulations to the Winners of the

# Teen Writing Challenge

### Grades 9-12

## **3RD Place — Christopher Campos-Perez**

#### TWITTER IS THE NEW RELIGION

Retweet Retweet Retw-That isn't worth my retweet

Another anxious night and I just don't where to begin
Should I do what I want to do or do what I have to do? #teenangst
"People need to realize that social media before going to bed
Is a bad thing because it engages the mind and keeps you up all night."
I wonder if 90 kids had it bad with corded telephones
80 kids with their radios
70s with gas prices
60s bombs
50s....This is where it started #herewego

James Dean the beats cultural suppression cold war kids Elvis and rock n roll Suburbian nightmares vast wasteland of tv 'Nam and the silent majority Modernity rising and family matters.

Retweet Retweet Retw---This tweet relates to me

I should share this with everyone I know Or share with my friends Or share with my followers

Twitter does a great job combining the two And cancelling out their meaning To signify people are not what they seem #truth

Functioning the next day, I wonder if parents Leave it to their kids To leave it to their grandkids Wondering who will figure it out Before the approach of our next big bang

Retweet Retweet Retweet

Twitter is the new religion----- Right around the block.
Drive to the nearest computer----- You step on a place of worship.
Pass by the nearest cell phone-----You hear the bells ringing
Walk outside any day of the week------You endure the Sunday that never ends

Quench your thirst under 140 characters----- The world rests on the palm of your hands.

It's all about what you can give What you say to benefit others Shaping into the mold Followers practicing what they preach Favorites utilized as cocaine About the attention

To moan, in a tone
Of self-approval
Satisfaction
It's about what you want to hear
At the given moment when things don't conform to your way
Whether it's right or wrong
It doesn't matter
It's always about you

Twitter gives us this purpose to participate Commiserate, Annihilate, Isolate, COMPLAIN

Admit it! You believe you have this forsaken right to complain That somehow the Founding Fathers constituted that from the beginning Unaware that every word said and constructed to form a complaint Comes with a price #murica

Twitter bird, can you tweet for me? Oh, that's up to me? You chirp as though you mock me Wings proven to soar and fly free whereas I remain restrained and incapable of going anywhere But here.

#LT Everyone is in need of telling their story Not all at once, but in pieces

But with the dominance of the screens And replacing the necessity of paper and pen The story becomes convoluted into shreds.

#### **UOENO**

Not him, not her, not anyone
Only God can judge me
But "God is dead"
According to Nietzsche and his existentialist followers.
Who is there to judge?
No one really knows
We're thrown out here
Responsible for the choices
Incapable of handling life's luxuries
Enduring uncalled for experiences
Confused for all eternity

LIST THE THINGS THAT MATTER
Don't pause, GO:
Life
Happiness
You
THAT IS ALL.
It's not solfish to be solfless to not make

It's not selfish to be selfless to not make this your top priority you are worth the journey you are here for the time being you are the only person that can be you Because everyone else is taken.

Enough with your absurdities
Misconceived notions
Impulses and anxiety
Compulsive need to get attention
To grab the focus of an already shortened memory span
Of an entire population.

Focus on other things like the pursuit of happiness #kidcudi Understand that everybody hurts #rem Know that you are beautiful #christinaaguilera Because with or without you #u2 "This is your life and it's ending one minute at a time."

